



## COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

**TO:** All PACE Staff & Clients  
**FROM:** Laura Visser, Chief Executive Officer  
**DATE:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Response Update

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As you are aware, the Ontario government took the extraordinary step yesterday of declaring an emergency in order to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Declaring the emergency allowed the government to:

- reduce exposure to COVID-19 by requiring the immediate closure of establishments that encourage people to gather in large numbers and/or in close proximity to each other; and to
- make special investments to enhance the response to COVID-19 across the province (e.g. to increase the provincial supply of personal protective equipment needed to protect frontline workers).

While the government declared an emergency in order to support the health care sector and community support organizations like PACE, I know it is hard not to feel increased anxiety when watching, listening to or reading media coverage and social media content related to this and other COVID-19 news.

The PACE Senior Leadership Team recognizes that timely and accurate information helps each of us manage concerns during unusual situations. For this reason, on a daily basis, PACE will update and post an assessment of the current organizational risk level on our website (<https://www.pace-il.ca/news>) and on the Health & Safety boards in each PACE office.

Please also be assured that PACE is continuously monitoring the evolving situation and is adapting our response and preparations as needed. I thank all PACE clients for the steps you are taking to keep yourself and PACE staff healthy and safe – and I thank each PACE team member for the contributions you are making, both individually and in partnership with the team, to help ensure that we are able to continue to safely support PACE clients.

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